Water Quality

Water Quality is a prime asset and every effort should be made during highway construction to adhere to recommended guidelines to prevent contamination. Guidelines for maintaining water quality include: (1) control of soil erosion and siltation; (2) control of waste disposal areas during construction; (3) allowing entrance of live and impounded waters only within construction limits; (4) no deposition of any construction materials or pollution agents in traversed waters; (5) proper drainage of all borrow pits and ditches; and (6) inclusion of adequate drainage control plans on facilities in construction. These guidelines are set in NCDOT's "Best Management Practices for Protection of Surface Waters".

Although the Town of Farmville receives its water supply from elevated tanks and ground wells, guidelines for maintaining water quality is still expected. Most of the surface water and storm drainage is into the Little Contentnea Creek Basin which flows into the Neuse River. Most of the surface water and storm drainage is into the Little Contentnea Creek Basin which flows into the Neuse River. The water quality classification of Little Contentnea Creek is Class C-SW-NSW. The classification means the water is used for fishing and secondary recreation; it is of **SW**amp type; and it is **N**utrient **S**ensitive **W**aters. Nutrient sensitive waters have farmland chemical runoff. One proposed project, Knox Schoolhouse Road, will cross this creek at Middle Swamp. In addition, the Three Schools Boulevard will border the floodway of Little Contentnea Creek.

Another concern to water quality is waste sites. Waste sites are waste from leaking underground tanks and sewage disposal. There are different categories of waste sites. Farmville has a total of eleven wastes sites with three different categories. (See Figure 4). A description of the three categories which Farmville has are as follows: 1) Superfund Sites are critical. It is major hazardous waste from leaking underground tanks. 2) Groundwater Incidents are also leaking underground tanks. However they are not as critical as Superfund sites. 3) National Pollution Discharge Elimination Systems, NPDES, are sewage discharge outfalls from some type of industry.

Wetlands

Wetlands are very important in evaluating alternatives. Wetlands are lands where saturation with water is the dominant factor in determining the nature of soil development and the types of plant and animal communities living in the soil and on its surface. The Wetlands Memorandum of Agreement Section 404 of the Clean Water Act of 1977 gives guidance on this environmental factor. The primary goal of the memorandum is to achieve no net loss of wetlands. Also, no disruption of wetlands is permitted; if there is a practical and feasible alternative that would have less adverse impact on the area. In addition, compensatory mitigation is required if wetlands are impacted. Wetlands impacted in the Farmville Urban Area Thoroughfare Plan are in Table 8. Every effort was made to minimize wetland areas as well